

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

February 16, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

At 1:05 p.m., I received a call from General Walters which contained the following message:

Walters stated that he had just returned from a meeting with Mai Van Bo in which he was told that Mai Van Bo, Xuan Thuy and their "visitor", if he is still in Paris, would like to meet with Dr. Kissinger at 10:00 a.m. on February 20th or 21st and that they would like to have an answer by 0730 hours tomorrow morning Paris time (1:30 a.m., February 17th, Washington time).

General Walters stated that he was given tea, was treated amiably and that the other side said that they hoped that the U.S. would be willing to make some conciliatory moves which could get the negotiations off of dead center. Mai Van Bo also added that he is working on his English because the world is changing and he may be, in the future, working on our side.

I told General Walters that we would be back to him with guidance shortly and that he should immediately sit down and write a detailed memcon of the entire exchange. It is necessary for us to instruct Walters on the following:

DIA review(s) completed.

- a. Whether or not you will accept the meeting time.

Note: I recommend that you accept Saturday.

- b. How General Walters should transmit to us in an expedited fashion the details of his discussion with Mai Van Bo.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

Note: I believe we have reasonable assurance that a message from Walters via back channels directly to the White House via DIA, exclusive net, will arrive here uncompromised. It would be especially secure if I had General Walters take out any names.

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

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TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

-2-

in the message and address it to me on a personal basis, but it would not be likely to attract any attention should there be some unforeseen exposure. With your approval, I will tell General Walters to dispatch the message now using this route.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

I talked to Don Hughes about transportation and recommend the following:

Depart Andrews at 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 21 and arrive Paris at approximately 9:00 p.m. on Friday (local time), including Lake and Smyser in your party, with return flight Saturday evening after dinner in Paris.

If we notify the French of your trip, with a view toward getting authority to land at a French military facility, I think you can then also stay with General Walters without any fear of compromise beyond the French Government.

With your approval, we will set up the trip along the above lines, to include meeting with Lucet privately to get air clearance. I would also emphasize the security rationale you gave to me.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

See me _____

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE